

Faculty Differs On Proposal

U-M Weighs CIA Regulation Policy

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By Robert Cummins

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University of Michigan professors expressed conflicting opinions Monday on a proposed policy on relationships between U-M faculty, staff and students and intelligence agencies.

The proposed policy was developed by the U-M Civil Liberties Board and was discussed at the regular monthly meeting of Senate Assembly, the faculty's representative body.

The statement says "recent disclosure of covert recruitment activity and intelligence gathering by the CIA within the University of Michigan and other American universities" has made a policy necessary.

IT PROPOSES a "dual test of secrecy and potential for serious harm or deceptive consequences" for prohibited relationships.

The policy says express prior consent of an individual is required before his or her name may be submitted by another member of the University community to an intelligence agency such as the CIA as a potential employee, consultant or agent.

It also says special attention should be paid to avoiding compromising foreign national students.

On enforcement, the policy statement says it is the responsibility of the members of the University community who acquire knowledge of possible violation to bring them to light promptly. "Adjudication and penalties for violations will be the responsibility of University bodies and officials and be governed by existing rules and regulations as appropriate."

JAMES WHITE, law professor, called the statement "unduly vague" and said each person would have his own definition of phrases like "serious harm."

Bruce Friedman, pathology professor who is chairman of the Civil Liberties Board, agreed that the statement is "somewhat vague," but said it was workable.

Stephen Tonsor, history professor, said all secret relationships should be outlawed. "The university spirit demands openness," he said. "Students have a right to know what secret relationships exist. It is disgusting to entertain relationships which cannot stand the light of day. I want to see every secret relationship a matter of public record."

Lawrence Jones, physics professor, disagreed with Tonsor, saying that if someone suggested a way he could help free a Soviet dissenter who was on trial, he would want to be able to help, even if it required a secret relationship.

ERIC RABKIN, English professor, said he agreed with Tonsor's condemnation but had different reasons. He said the statement interfered with political freedom and freedom of speech.

"You are willing to use the University as a tool to proscribe actions which civil authorities could not themselves proscribe," Rabkin said.

Friedman indicated some revisions would be made in the document in

line with the discussion before it is submitted for adoption at the June meeting.

Earlier in the afternoon, the Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA), the executive board for Senate Assembly, drew up an agenda for its May 22 meeting with President Robben W. Fleming.

THREE OF THE items deal with the University calendar. First is the varying length of the fall semesters. Second is scheduling examinations during Passovers. Third is the trimester system itself.

Lawrence Jones said the present trimester is too short. "I'm frankly embarrassed by the amount of material I am able to transmit in a three-hour course. It is just not as much as it should be," he said.

The present term lasts 13 weeks. The schools of law, medicine and dentistry have retained 15-week terms, it was noted.

Shaw Livermore, chairman of SACUA, said he would like to see a comparison of the rationale for the trimester system with actual experience.

The fourth item, sparked by references to the fact that Fleming is approaching retirement age, will be the faculty's role in the search for a replacement.